

# DAILY PLANET

ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS

Wednesday, September 3

1997

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## **Sheila Cloud Appointed Director Institutional and Program Support**

Sheila Cloud has been appointed director of one of the Marshall Center's largest organizations, the Institutional and Program Support Directorate. A Marshall employee since 1983, Cloud previously served as director of the Resources Management Office in the Office of the Chief Financial Officer.

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## **Volunteers Needed for CFC Community Service Day Sept. 13**

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## **Cassini Briefing Set for Wed.**

Final preparations for launch of the Cassini mission to Saturn will be the topic of a news briefing at noon Wednesday on NASA TV. Cassini is scheduled for lift-off at 4:38 a.m. CDT on Monday, Oct. 6.

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## **Team to Investigate Stennis Main Engine Test Stand Fire**

NASA has appointed a team to investigate the cause of a fire that occurred during testing of a developmental Space Shuttle main engine on Aug. 27 at Stennis Space Center, Miss. There were no injuries. During the test, the turbine discharge temperature exceeded its limits, causing the engine to automatically cut off. Then, the fire occurred. It is not immediately known if the incident will have any impact on the launch of the Space Shuttle Atlantis on the STS-86 mission.

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## **New X-ray Device to Improve Protein Crystal Growth Research**

A new X-ray device has been developed to speed the collection of information from protein crystal growth experiments planned for the International Space Station. The X-ray generator will measure and map the structure of crystals in space, eliminating the need to return space grown crystals to Earth for analysis. Protein crystal growth experiments may lead to improved drug designs. The device is the result of a joint effort by NASA's Microgravity Research Program at Marshall, university researchers and industry.